

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached are a replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes to FIG. 8. At the Examiners request, related art has been changed back to prior art.

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated February 28, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 11, 19 and 35-40 are withdrawn in this application. Claims 2-10, 12-18 and 21-34 are rejected to by the Examiner. Claims 4 and 17 have been amended, and claims 41 and 42 are newly added. Claims 2-19 and 21-42 remain pending in this application.

The Examiner indicates that the amendments to claims 4 and 17 are improper. Applicant has removed the additional features to restore the claims to their previous form. However, because Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's assessment of the subject matter of the amended claims, the amended claims 4 and 17 are presented as new claims 41 and 42 respectively.

In the Office Action, claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 10, 12, 17, 18, 21, 22 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Prior Art (APA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,362,858 to Jeon et al. (hereinafter "Jeon"), U.S. Patent No. 6,300,995 to Wakagi et al. (hereinafter "Wakagi") and U.S. Patent No. 6,356,330 to Ando et al. (hereinafter "Ando"). Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,323,918 to Yoshioka et al. (hereinafter "Yoshioka"). Claims 3, 6 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,278,502 to Colgan et al. (hereinafter "Colgan"). Claims 8, 9 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0008824 to Son et al. (hereinafter "Son"). Claims 23-25 and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon,

Wakagi and Ando and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,219,125 to Ishikura et al. (hereinafter "Ishikura"). Claims 26 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of Colgan. Claims 16 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over APA in view of Jeon, Wakagi, Ando and Ishikura and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,049,365 to Nakashima et al. (hereinafter "Nakashima").

The rejection of claims 2-10, 12-18, 21-34, 41, and 42 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 2-10, 12-18, 21-34, 41, and 42 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a storage electrode over the common line, wherein the storage electrode contacts the second connecting line" recited in claims 4, 17, 41 and 42. As Applicants have argued in previous responses, none of the cited references including APA, Jeon, Wakagi, Ando, Yoshioka, Colgan, Son, Ishikura, and Nakashima, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4 and claims 2, 3, 5-10, and 12-16, which depend from claim 4, are allowable over the cited references. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17, and claims 18 and 21-34, which depend from claim 17, are allowable over the cited references. Similarly, claims 41 and 42 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps

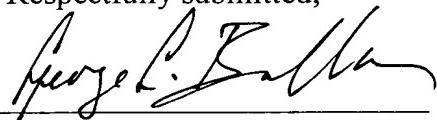
necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Dated: May 30, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By _____


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Attachments



ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES

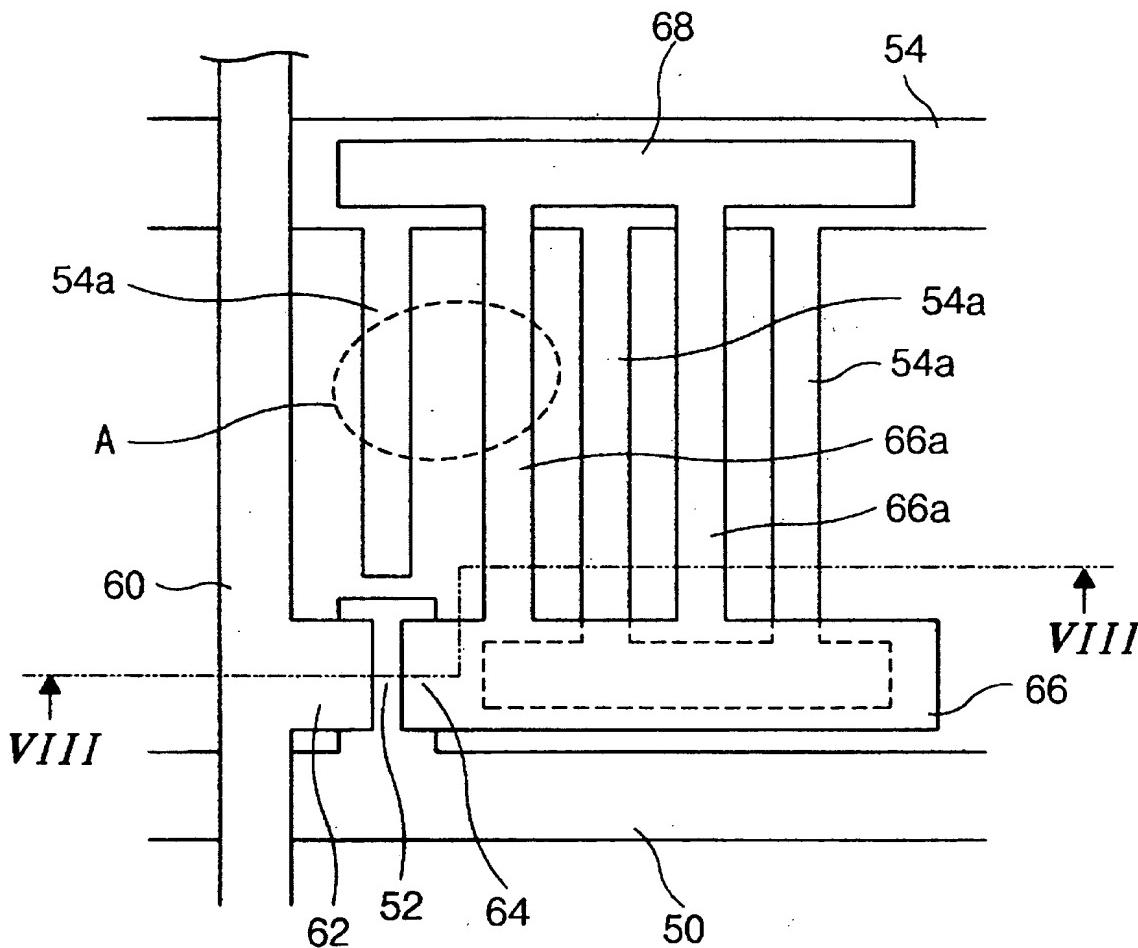


FIG 8